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"A DAGGER IN THE HEART"

We have heard speakers who were able to escape from Cuba describe the nation prior to the take over by Fidel Castro. It is very interesting to note that every escape from the clutches of the heartless dictator have told the same story that is found in the book, DAGGER IN THE HEART. The book published last year is by Dr. Mario Lazo. He cleared up many misconceptions for the general public about Cuba prior to the take over by Castro. Dr. Lazo showed (as did the speakers we have heard,) for example, that Cuba had a very high standard of living before Castro took over, higher than Mexico or any other Latin-American nation. Its educational system was outstanding, its social security programs all-inclusive, and its medical programs compared favorably in many respects with ours.

One of the figures widely used in the American press against Batista is that he killed "20,000 people" in the two-year period before Castro took over. The figure, pointed out Dr. Lazo, was created by Castro himself. The CIA estimated that 900 people were killed in those two tumultuous years, not 20,000 and that many of them were killed by Castro and his forces.

It was the U. S. State Department, THE NEW YORK TIMES, The Columbia Broadcasting System and other liberal forces, said Dr. Lazo, that put Castro in power with their propaganda. He proves it in his book, the classic work on how Cuba was taken over.

The prejudices of liberalism are summed up by Dr. Lazo as follows: 1) All liberals unite in the belief that their main enemy is to the Right, never to the Left. 2) Modern liberalism always favors discussion, negotiation, and compromise as the only rational and acceptable method of settling disputes. It rejects the use of force. 3) liberal ideology favors "democracy" everywhere, at all times, and is unable to acknowledge the possibility that some other type of rule may be suitable for a developing nation, unless it be some form of leftist totalitarianism.

Liberalism has a passion for social innovation and reform. If the changes it fancies do not come rapidly, it favors revolution. Any Washington policy-maker who adheres to these views, said Dr. Lazo, "is not qualified to deal with Latin-American affairs." It is far beyond the hour when Washington needs to wake up from the Rip Van Winkle sleep.